



# HARFORD COUNTY DEPUTY SHERIFF'S UNION

PO Box 881, Bel Air, Maryland 21014

[www.hcdsu.org](http://www.hcdsu.org)

March 7, 2025

The Honorable Ben Barnes  
Chair, Appropriations Committee  
House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: House Bill 1102– State Retirement and Pension System-Military Service Credit-Eligibility**

Dear Chairman Barnes and members of the Appropriations Committee,

The Harford County Deputy Sheriff's Union supports House Bill 1102. We represent over 300 sworn deputies of the Harford County Sheriff's Office who serve each day to keep citizens safe in Harford County and Maryland.

Recruitment and retention continue to be a challenge for law enforcement agencies across Maryland jurisdictions. Although law enforcement candidates enter the profession for many reasons, the ability to attain a reliable pension benefit is certainly a primary consideration for candidates and current members of the LEOPS plan. Currently under LEOPS, Active duty retirees do not get for military service as others do. If you retire the Guard or Reserves, you can receive up to 5 years credit added on to the back end of your service.

House Bill 1102 would give active duty retirees the same credit in the LEOPS plan.

The Harford County Deputy Sheriff's Union is grateful for your continued efforts to examine and improve pension benefits for all of Maryland's law enforcement officers, We support House Bill 1102 and request a FAVORABLE report.

Sincerely,  
[Gerald Eaton Jr](#)  
Gerald Eaton  
Harford County Deputy Sheriff's Union